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International & Graduate Office Newsletter

University of Michigan Law School

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University of Michigan Law School

International & Graduate Office Newsletter

PROGRAM ON INTERNATIONAL LAW CAREERS HELD AT LAW SCHOOL

An exciting program about career opportunities in international law took place in the Lawyer's Club Lounge, Wednesday, February 12. "We had a very interesting group of speakers share their insights about how to develop a career in international law, as well as students who shared their experiences in securing summer employment with an international focus both in the U.S. and overseas," said Danielle Lemack, President of the International Law Society. "More than fifty students attended and it was a great success."

The speakers were: Theresa Holder (Michigan JD 1994) with the International Practice Group of General Motors, and Bill Bogaard

who is currently a visiting faculty member at the Law School and who was formerly general counsel of First Interstate Bankcorp. In addition, lawyers from the international departments of Altheimer and Gray in Chicago and Jones, Day in Cleveland participated. Student panelists included second- and third-year students who have worked at: Legal Aid of Cambodia, the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, the Supreme Court of Argentina in Buenos Aires, and the American Embassy in Paris, as well as a student who pursued an externship in South Africa.

The program was jointly sponsored by the International Law Society, the International and Graduate Office, and the Office of Career Services. ♦

MESSAGE FROM ASSISTANT DEAN

The winter term is filled with exciting international activities reflecting the high energy and interest of our faculty and students. The *Michigan Journal of Race and Law* is organizing a major symposium in March on "Constitution-Making in South Africa." The application process is underway for fall-term externship opportunities with human rights groups in London and in South Africa. The Law School is pleased to welcome a distinguished visiting professor from abroad, Professor Chris McCrudden, who is on the faculty of Oxford University. This term he is teaching Comparative Human Rights Law; Employment Discrimination and Legal Theory and European Convention on Human Rights. Additionally, we anticipate an exciting array of speakers who will participate this term in the International Law Workshop.

Please read more about these and other Law School activities on the international front in this newsletter.

Let me also take this opportunity to introduce to you again Barbara Le Bras, the new Assistant Director of the International and Graduate Office. Barbara joined the Law School in early December from the Office of International Programs at the University of Michigan where, since 1990, her responsibilities focused on student advising and program administration for undergraduate study abroad opportunities. Her office is 945 Legal Research (TEL: 763-6802; E-MAIL: blebras@umich.edu). ♦

Virginia B. Gordan, Assistant Dean, International Programs, 941 Legal Research
vgordan@umich.edu

NEW E-MAIL GROUP ESTABLISHED FOR LAW STUDENTS WITH INTERNATIONAL AND GLOBAL INTERESTS

The International and Graduate Office has organized an e-mail group for law students with international and global interests and is notifying the group about events that are happening around the University that offer an international or comparative perspective. In addition, there will be announcements about overseas internships, fellowships, and the like.

"There are so many exciting things happening in the Law School and all around the University that concern other countries or international affairs. It is hard to keep track of them all," said Assistant Dean Virginia Gordan. "We hope this e-mail group will make it easier for interested students to learn about what's going on, especially on other parts of the campus. We've already had 100 students sign up."

Please send your name and e-mail address to Stephanie Wiederhold at wls@umich.edu if you would like to become part of the e-mail group. Also, please send Ms. Wiederhold notice of any events or announcements that you would like the Office to include. ♦

JESSUP TEAM PREPARES FOR REGIONALS

Each year, the International Law Society sponsors a team to compete in the Phillip C. Jessup International Moot Court Competition. The competition simulates a case before the International Court of Justice, and includes both brief writing and oral argument. Each law school sends both an applicant (plaintiff) and respondent (defendant) team. This year's topic involves a humanitarian relief effort gone awry, and raises several hot issues in international law, including international adoption law, international human rights law, and international trade law.

This year's team was selected after competing in an intramural competition last October. The team members are: Paul Bavier (1L) and Erinn Weeks (2L) for applicants, Miriam Moore (2L) and Jeff Silver (1L) for respondents, and Randi Vickers (1L) as alternate. The teams recently completed their briefs, and have been practicing oral arguments in preparation for the regional tournament at the University of Toledo from February 14-16. "It's been a lot of hard work, but I'm glad I'm doing Jessup," said Erinn Weeks. "It's really strengthened my writing and advocacy skills. Plus, I've enjoyed working with my teammates."

The team is coached by Bryan Walters (2L), who participated in Jessup last year and helped Michigan win the regionals and make it to the International Rounds last March. "I am extremely impressed with this year's team," Walters said. "I think they have a great chance of winning regionals and doing well in the international rounds."

The team has also received assistance from Professor Jose Alvarez, faculty advisor to the Jessup team, who has high hopes for this year's team. Good luck in Toledo! ♦

LAW SCHOOL TO HOST FEMINIST LAW STUDENTS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF BERLIN (HUMBOLDT)

UM Law students invited to pizza reception at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, February 17, in the Lawyers Club Lounge with German students to talk on "Establishing Feminist Law in Germany: Against Enormous Odds"

The Law School will serve as host to a group of 10 feminist law students from the University of Berlin (Humboldt) on Monday, February 17. The students are on a three-week study tour to visit the law schools at Michigan, UCLA, Harvard, NYU, Columbia, Cardozo, Yale, Georgetown, and American Universities. Their visit to Michigan is being coordinated by the International and Graduate Office, the *Journal of Gender and Law*, the *Michigan Journal of International Law*, and the Women Law Students Association.

The three-week study tour has been organized by Professor Fran Olsen of UCLA Law School. The idea of the program is to expose the German law students to how feminist and gender issues and ideas are taught in U.S. law schools "where there are more than the zero, one, or two female law professors (almost never feminist) present at most German universities," said Professor Olsen. "The program will also expose U.S. law feminist students to their counterparts in Germany who have been living through the complex period of transition."

There will be a reception at 5:30 p.m. in Lawyer's Club Lounge on Monday, February 17, for the visiting German students to which Michigan law students are invited and encouraged to come. Pizza and pop will be served, and the visiting German students will give a presentation on the experience of women and the study of gender and feminist issues in German law schools. Their talk will be entitled, "Establishing Feminist Law in Germany: Against Enormous Odds." ♦

UPDATE ON PRO BONO CAMBODIA

Pro bono Cambodia, the public service component to the Law School's new Program for Cambodian Law and Development, continues to gather momentum. This term 35 students are working under the direction of Professor Peter Hammer on a variety of pro bono research projects on Cambodian law. Nine students continue to work on the election law project begun last semester. A working draft of an election law has been sent to the Cambodian Institute of Human Rights together with a survey of election laws of other countries in the region. Eight students are working on family law issues, seven on the genocide justice project, seven on a request by the legal advisor of the United Nations Development Project to assist with reforming Cambodian Intellectual Property Law to the requirements of Asean, and four

students on issues of dual nationality for the Asia Foundation.

"It is wonderful to see the way in which the incredible resources of our students' research efforts and our library facilities are combining to contribute to assist with the legal needs of Cambodia," said Professor Peter Hammer. Professor Hammer established the Program for Cambodian Law and Development at the University of Michigan Law School this past fall. ♦

UPCOMING VISIT BY HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST, NUALA MOLE

The last week of February brings a visit to the Law School by Nuala Mole, the Executive Director of The AIRE Centre in London. During her stay, she will speak to interested law students on the subject of "Everyone's Right to Life Shall Be Protected by Law: Whose Life? Which Life? What Protection?" Her talk will be at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 26, 1997. During her stay, she will also hold interviews with students seeking summer internships or a fall-term externships with The AIRE Centre.

A series of externship opportunities were developed this past fall with leading human rights and environmental organizations in London for the 1997 and 1998 winter terms. These organizations may have summer internship possibilities, too. The AIRE Centre and Interights are both international human rights organizations involved in civil rights and civil liberties issues around the world. Opportunities are also available at Liberty, an organization working to defend civil rights and civil liberties in Britain; Article XIX, an organization dedicated to freedom of expression; and FIELD, an international environmental organization.

The deadline for applications for externships with these organizations is February 17. Applications should be submitted to the International and Graduate Office (943 Legal Research). If you have questions about these opportunities, please see Virginia Gordan or Barbara Le Bras. Also, please visit the International and Graduate Office for more details about the application procedure and for handouts about the organizations.

"Many students are interested in pursuing public service work in other countries but are uncertain how to locate good organizations," said Professor Brian Simpson. "These organizations are top notch. Several of our students have already interned at The AIRE Centre and have described it as an outstanding and life-changing experience." ♦

THE MICHIGAN JOURNAL OF RACE & LAW ANNOUNCES SYMPOSIUM: "CONSTITUTION-MAKING IN SOUTH AFRICA"

On March 21 and 22, 1997, the *Michigan Journal of Race and Law* will present the symposium, "Constitution-Making in South Africa," at the University of Michigan Law School. This working conference will offer one of the first opportunities to analyze South Africa's recently completed constitution-making process and the lessons it may hold for other emerging democracies.

The *Journal* has invited South African jurists, constitutional scholars, legal practitioners and public officials to meet with constitutional experts from the United States, Eastern Europe, Canada and other nations to explore the challenges of the constitution-making process and to debate the meaning of South Africa's Constitution. Panelists will also present a moot court re-creation of oral arguments from pivotal cases brought before South Africa's Constitutional Court during the past two years.

"This conference will present an important first look back at South Africa's new constitution and the process which created it," said Jeffrey S. Lehman, Dean of the University of Michigan Law School. "I am confident that it will be a significant source of ideas for advancing democracy in South Africa and other nations, especially those beset by racial and ethnic strife."

"The people of South Africa have brought about what few would have believed possible: a relatively peaceful transition to constitutional democracy," said symposium coordinator John Humphrey. "This symposium offers a forum for analyzing that achievement that will help to maintain and expand upon South Africa's constitutional success."

The Symposium has a Web site at: <http://www.law.umich.edu/pubs/journals/mjrl/index.htm>.

Some of the participants include: Firoz Cachalia, Leader of the House, Guateng Legislature; Karthy Govender, University of Natal Faculty of Law; Nicholas Haysom, Legal Counsel to the President; Heinz Klug, University of Wisconsin Law School; Tuli Madonfela, Deputy Director, Planning Unit, Department of Justice, South Africa; Tiyanjana Maluwa, University of Cape Town Faculty of Law; Ziyad Motala, Howard University School of Law; Tshepo Mosikatsana, University of Witwatersrand Faculty of Law; Christina Murray, University of Cape Town, former advisor to the Constitutional Assembly; and Bulelani Ngcuka, Chief Whip (ANC), South Africa Senate. ♦

LAW SCHOOL HOSTS DISTINGUISHED RESEARCH SCHOLARS FROM OVERSEAS THIS TERM

There is a wonderful hidden resource for law students nestled in the stacks of the Legal Research building: a distinguished group of scholars visiting from other countries.

This term the Law School is host to Professor Naigen Zhang of Shanghai, China. Professor Zhang is chair of the International Economic Law Department at Fudan University, one of China's leading institutions. Professor Zhang is in Ann Arbor to work on a book focusing on intellectual property and international trade issues. Professor Zhang's office number is 502 Legal Research, and his e-mail address is znaigen@umich.edu.

Nicolas Cubillos is on the faculty of the Catholic University of Chile in Santiago. He is also an attorney with the law firm of Ovalle, Cubillos and Labarca where he practices commercial law. His carrel is 990 Legal Research, and his e-mail address is nicolasc@umich.edu.

Professor Cristian Martinez is on the faculty of the Catholic University of Argentina, and he pursues private practice as an attorney with the Buenos Aires law firm of Fiorito and Abogados. His carrel is 994 Legal Research.

In addition to these visiting research professors, this year the Law School is pleased to welcome graduate students and

other visiting scholars from the following countries: Azerbaijan, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Greenland, India, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Netherlands, the Philippines, Spain, Switzerland, and Thailand. These individuals are happy for law students to contact them if they are interested in learning more about the law, legal profession, and careers in their countries. Law students should visit the International and Graduate Office (764-5269, 943 Legal Research, wls@umich.edu) to learn who is here from the countries they are interested in. ♦

STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES FOR MICHIGAN LAW STUDENTS

Michigan Law students are fortunate to have the opportunity to study abroad and earn credit for the JD program. English-speaking programs are established at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands, the University of Leuven in Belgium, and at University College, London. In addition, students with a good-working knowledge of French may study at the University of Paris II. These programs are sponsored and arranged by the International and Graduate Office. If students would like to study in other areas of the world, they are welcome to create their own "individualized study abroad programs."

Meredith Jones who attended the University College London program in the Fall 1996 semester raves about her experience. "I found the teaching at UCL in general to be of a high caliber. I was concerned at first that I would end by having attended only an extended introduction to each of the courses as a result of the shortness of the program. However, I found that the professors moved steadily through large amounts of material while still managing a thorough exploration of the topics at hand. Each of my professors also made use of guest lecturers and allowed us to take advantage of the expertise of others within the larger University of London framework."

Not only do these opportunities give students a chance to take law, as well as other courses, they also allow students to

learn about how subjects are approached and taught in another country, to learn about another culture, and to learn about themselves.

Studying abroad presents special challenges, including adjusting to a new culture and a different learning environment, but most students have a positive experience. Bill Quick, who studied at the University of Leiden in the Fall 1996 semester says, "Studying in Leiden was a great experience which I would gladly repeat."

And for every challenge that studying abroad brings, there are also special rewards. As Meredith Jones says, "Attending UCL greatly contributed to my love affair with London. Located in the heart of the Bloomsbury district, the libraries and classrooms of UCL are surrounded by Georgian terraces and squares, the houses of which are dotted with plaques commemorating famous occupants who once lived there."

Students interested in studying abroad should stop by the International and Graduate Office, 943 Legal Research, for more information. The deadline for applying for the Fall 1997 semester is March 14, 1997. ♦

INTERNATIONAL LAW WORKSHOP BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

The International Law Workshop which brought a series of interesting speakers to Ann Arbor last fall to speak on hot topics in international law will continue to do the same in the 1997 winter term. The workshop introduces the most debated issues of the day in international and comparative law. It is organized to have a half hour presentation by the speaker followed by five or ten minutes of provocative comments by a faculty member and then discussion and question and answer from the audience. "This workshop is the brain child of Professor Michael Heller," said Assistant Dean Virginia Gordan. "It has been a wonderful opportunity to bring law students and faculty together as well as people from other departments to engage in spirited discussion on common ground." Another very nice feature has been the refreshments and receptions following the workshop organized by the

International Law Society and the *Michigan Journal of International Law*; this enables people with shared interests to get to know one another.

The 1997 winter term schedule for the International Law Workshop is below:



Monday, February 10

7:30-9:00 p.m.

Lane Hall

Commons Room

Eleonora Zielinska, Professor and Director of the Institute of Penal Law at Warsaw University School of Law
"Recent Trends in Abortion Legislation in Central Europe"

Thursday, February 20

4:30-6:00 p.m. Room 132

Hutchins Hall

Louis Henkin, University Professor Emeritus, Columbia Law School—
"Constitutional Issues in Foreign Affairs"

Wednesday, February 26

11:00-noon Room 220

Hutchins Hall

Nuala Mole, Director, AIRE Centre, London—"Everyone's Right to Life Shall be Protected by Law"

Thursday, March 13

4:00-5:30 p.m. Room

132 Hutchins Hall

Dinah L. Shelton, Professor of Law, Notre Dame Law School—"Damages and Reparations for Human Rights Violations"

Wednesday, March 26

12:00-1:00 p.m.

Lane Hall

Zorica Mrsevic, Professor of Law and Lecturer in Women's Studies at the University of Belgrade —
"Domestic Violence Against Women in Serbia"

Thursday, March 27

4:00-5:30 p.m.

Room 132

Hutchins Hall

Gennady M. Dannilenko, Head, Center for International Law, the Russian Academy of Sciences, Institute of State and Law—"International Human Rights in Russian Domestic Law"

Thursday, April 17

4:00-5:30 p.m.

Room 132 Hutchins Hall

Christopher McCrudden, Reader in Law, Oxford University Fellow; Lincoln College, Oxford—"Employment Law Meets International Free Trade: Social Clauses in Government Contracts Revisited"